

## **MULTIMEDIA UNIVERSITY**

### FINAL EXAMINATION

TRIMESTER 1, 2019/2020

# LCT1017 – COMMUNICATION THEORIES (FAC1)

21 OCTOBER 2019 2.30 P.M. – 4.30 P.M. (2 Hours)

#### INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENT

- 1. This question paper consists of TWO pages.
- 2. Answer ALL questions.
- 3. Write your answers in the Answer Booklet.

#### STRUCTURED QUESTIONS [50 MARKS]

Instructions: Answer ALL questions. Write your answers in the Answer Booklet.

#### Question 1

Whether the quest is for a universal law that makes prediction possible or a guide for interpretation that helps make sense of equivocal communication, theorists know that the task demands research.

a) Explain TWO (2) types of research methods.

(4 marks)

b) Explain **THREE** (3) tools of communication research that can be used to test theories. (6 marks)

#### Question 2

Burgoon defined *personal space* as the "invisible, variable volume of space surrounding an individual that defines that individual's preferred distance from others."

a) Define expectancy with one example.

(2 marks)

b) Explain FOUR (4) proxemic zones with examples.

(8 marks)

#### Question 3

Berger introduced "A Plan-based Theory of Strategic Communication" which is a message plan to cope with uncertain responses. According to Berger, "plans are mental representations of action sequences that may be used to achieve goals."

a) Explain TWO (2) strategies that can be used to seek information in order to find out how other people might respond to us.

(4 marks)

b) What is axiom?

(1 mark)

c) State **FIVE** (5) axioms under the Uncertainty Reduction Theory.

(5 marks)

Continued...

#### Question 4

Geertz and Pacanowsky describe organizations as having their own culture. This means that any given organization has a particular culture in which the meanings for things are shared between individuals.

- a) List and explain the THREE (3) types of stories told in organizations. (6 marks)
- b) Explain TWO (2) methods with one example each on how a researcher uses to obtain data from organizations. (4 marks)

#### Question 5

According to Barthes, interpreting signs is the goal of semiology – the study of the social production of meaning from sign systems; the analysis of anything that can stand for something else.

- a) Explain the terms below with **ONE** (1) example each:
  - i. Sign
  - ii. Signifier
- iii. Signified

(6 marks)



b) State the FOUR (4) important signs found in this advertisement.

(4 marks)

End of Paper